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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Finow Airfield

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EVALUATION ☐ 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED ☐

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DATE OF CONTENT ☐

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DATE OBTAINED ☐

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REFERENCES ☐

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) ☐

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REMARKS

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- ☐ 1. On 22 October 1950, about 30 jet aircraft with swept-back wings, 39 fighters with radial engines, and 7 twin-engine aircraft with single rudder assemblies were seen at the Finow (N 53/V 08) airfield. The leading edges of the wings of the conventional fighters were straight, trailing edges slightly rounded, an elevator assembly of a similar shape, a rigid tail wheel, and an antenna rod behind the cockpit. ☐
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- ☐ 2. On 1 November when the weather was hazy, 34 jet fighters with swept-back wings and without camouflage covers were counted at the field. (1) In addition, there were 12 gray-green jet fighters with fuselage steps, and 4 biplanes. (3) The aircraft parked farther northwest toward the woods and buildings could not be counted because of the bad visibility. ☐ (4)
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3. There was no flying on 1 November. Maintenance work was being done on almost all aircraft. It was particularly noticeable that some work was in progress on a rectangular aperture 20 x 25 cm on the fuselage of numerous planes between the wings and cockpit.
4. Many lights have been recently set up in the main approach lane. (5) A German employed by the Russians said that the entire food supply for the air force units stationed in Finow was picked up by trucks from the Berlin East Harbor.
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- ☐ 5. Between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on 1 November aircraft counted at the field and arranged as follows: 6 jet aircraft with swept-back wings, side by side on the eastern edge; 25 to 27 jet planes with swept-back wings, arranged in groups of from 2 to 11 side by side on the northern edge, 2 of them with dismantled wings; 2 or 3 jet planes with high-set cockpit, arranged irregularly on the northern edge; 3 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes; 2 or 3 biplanes; and 1 plane without wings, possibly under repair.

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6. The planes observed in the preceding paragraph are described as follows:

a. Jet plane with swept-back wings: air intake in nose, air exhaust in tail, both apertures with red sheet metal covers, no radar antenna under wings, high rudder assembly slanting to the rear, high-set elevator assembly considerably swept-back, drop-shaped single-seater cockpit, behind it an antenna rod slanting backward, nose wheel, main landing gear under wings and retracting inward, silver metallic color, [redacted]

[redacted] The canopies of most of these planes were slid to the rear. Entrance ladders were seen leaning against the left side of nose of aircraft parked on eastern edge of the field. Jet planes with conventional wings and rudder assemblies slanting to the rear were not noticed in the sections of the field which could be seen.

b. Jet plane with high-set, two-seater cockpit: mid-wing monoplane, nose wheel, conventional rudder assembly, air intake in nose, air exhaust under fuselage, main landing gear retracting inward, and dark green paint.

c. Single-engine, low-wing monoplane: in-line engine, three-bladed propeller, cockpit built into fuselage at the rear, tail wheel, and dark green paint. (6)

7. There was no flying on 1 November. The weather was slightly hazy and calm. Between 12:30 and 1 p.m. efforts were made to start the engine of a jet plane with swept-back wings which were successful after five attempts. The engine made the following different noises when being started:

a. Loud rattling noise of engine, presumably two-cylinder two-stroke motor, lasting for 20 seconds. The noise, though louder, could be compared with that of an outboard motor.

b. Dull sound, individual distinguishable explosions in combustion chamber, two-stroke motor picked up speed, and was stopped abruptly.

c. Then the faint and rising sound of the turbine was heard; the explosions in the combustion chamber made a dull roaring noise. (7)

The engine was stopped after about 4 minutes.

8. Two tank trucks each with a capacity of about 5,000 liters, two passenger cars, and two trucks were behind the jet aircraft on the eastern edge of the field. [redacted]

[redacted] radio truck, with antenna rods on the front section and on the right and left sides of the rear section of the roof, was 30 meters north of the extension strip of the runway. An installation consisting of a square sheet metal box about 80 cm high and a device of a man's height, was exactly in the expansion of the runway. The purpose of the installation could not be identified. Both the radio truck and undetermined installation were surrounded by an earthwall. (8)

9. A row of lights, about 30 meters apart, immediately south and parallel to the runway, extended beyond the Finow-Biesenthal (N 53/Z 97) road to the east. (5) The lights were about 50 cm in diameter and had red panes and shutters which folded upward. They were fitted on poles about 2 meters high and were tilted down slightly. They were pointed toward the east.

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10. Three temporary buildings east of Pinow-Riesenthal road appeared to be empty. Radio installations were previously housed there. Two thin wires led from the buildings which were east of, and in line with the runway. The wires were followed for a distance of about 3 km but their destination was not determined. No radio installation or radar set was observed in the area about 2½ km around the field. A truck with a mounted searchlight, about 1½ meters in diameter, was repeatedly seen at the field.

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11. Passenger car [redacted] was at the entrance to the field. No construction work was being done at the field. A fuel container with a capacity of about 3,000 liters was seen next to a pile of sand in the northeastern corner of the field. [redacted] this indicated that the container was possibly to be installed, or was dug out.

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25X1 [redacted] Comments.

(1) The number of Mig-15 jet aircraft at the field has not changed compared with previous reports. [redacted] From 30 to 40 aircraft of this type were observed during almost all observations. More aircraft are possibly parked in the parking sites of the field which could not be seen. [redacted] two fighter regiments are still believed to be stationed at the field. Thirty-nine fighters with radial engines is an unusually large number. The brief description indicates that the fighters are not of the LA type because of the shape of the wings and the tail wheel which is not retractable. They are believed to be Yak-11s.

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(2) [redacted]

(3) The number of type 16 jet planes is unusually large. The presence of so many jet trainers and conventional Yak-11 fighters indicates that a training unit for fighter pilots is possibly stationed in Pinow.

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(4) [redacted]

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(5) The lights mark the approach lane at night and in bad weather.
(6) The descriptions of the aircraft types indicate that no new type aircraft are stationed in Pinow contrary to a previous report [redacted]

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(7) The description of the starting process indicates that the turbines of the jet aircraft are apparently started by means of an Otto motor which is fitted inside the plane.

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(8) The installation is reported for the first time. Its purpose is not known. [redacted]

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